

REMOTE ISLAND MINISTRIES— *Philippines*

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“This kind of conference would not be possible except for the hearty and tireless work of the students and staff of PMBS-AIT.”



What a joy it has been to have our pastor and his wife, Robert and Sherri Harris with us during this year's Strength for the Laborers Conference. Their children, Sofia and Sydney accompanied them on the journey along with Faye Hubbard also of VBC.

Special Report: Bible Conference 2013

Glen Knight

The seventeenth annual Strength for the Laborers Conference here at Faith Baptist Church and Philippine Missionary Baptist Seminary-AIT proved to be a great blessing as 182 churches from throughout the Philippines were represented by their delegates. From its beginning on Monday evening, February 25th until the concluding service on Thursday night, the attendance remained high with overflow crowds during the evening activities and numerous decisions made for Christ. At least one profession of faith was made during the week and probably others as well, of whom we are not aware, but thank the Lord, He knows! Feedback from the attendees following the meeting continues to be very good with many admitting that this year's conference was perhaps the best by comparison to others before.

This kind of conference would not be possible except for the hearty and tireless work of the students and staff of PMBS-AIT. Few beyond our seminary really know the amount of effort that goes into the planning, preparation and hosting of the Bible conference. I personally thank all our people here and commend each for jobs well done. I also thank our sponsoring church, Victory Baptist Church of



Sherwood, Arkansas USA for their generous sponsorship of our seminary and Faith Baptist Church, Davao City, Philippines for their help in hosting the week-long event. Many thanks also go to our guest speakers whose photos are included in this report. Without the presence of each and the inspirational messages presented, the conference would not have been such a success. God blessed every moment and was honored by all our speakers in the many lessons and sermons preached. Finally, I am always amazed by the musical presentation of the seminary choir of PMBS-AIT. Thank you, choir with Director Paula Knight and assistant, Lony Babelonio. The time has now come to begin planning for next year's conference...PTL!

www.remoteislandministriesph.com

A special time for the ladies...

During our conference week it was such a special treat for the ladies to have as guest speakers, Geri Mauldin of Antioch, California and Sherri Harris of Sherwood, Arkansas. Over fifty ladies joined the two sessions that were planned just for the ladies attending the meeting. From what we have heard, they had a great time!

The photo at the right features Sherri Harris, Paula Knight, Ruth Natad, Geri Mauldin, Ruth Tupas and Merlina Espana.



The Speakers at work...

For fourteen hours a day during the three-day conference, our speakers labored in the Word of God together with delegates of 182 churches from throughout the Philippines. The musicians and singers contributed inspirational interludes between each of the messages and on Wednesday evening, the PMBS-AIT Choir—92 voices strong, presented the beautiful and challenging musical, "Into All The World." The outward response to the entire week has been almost overwhelming but the true value of this Bible conference will be seen in the weeks and months to come both here in the Philippines and elsewhere in the world. The photo at the right is of Pastor Jim Crain, Calvary Baptist Church, Minden, Louisiana USA. Thank you Pastor Crain and God bless your work!



Pastor Robert Harris of Victory Baptist Church, Sherwood, Arkansas USA preaching...Go Bro Ro!

If you want your cup filled time and time again, come to our Bible conference here in Davao next year! Each year it seems that the Strength for the Laborers Conference grows bigger and for this, we are rejoicing! We here at PMBS-AIT believe that such a meeting as this is important to do just what the conference title expresses—to give strength to those who labor in our churches and not just here in the Islands. Very soon we will be planning the next conference and our hope is that many more from throughout the world will join us in 2014.



The photo to the left is of Pastor Larry Clements, Editor-in-Chief of the Bogard Press. Great job, Brother Larry...thanks!

Pastor Jeff Luellen of Hyde Park Baptist Church, West Monroe, Louisiana USA (photo at right) shared a lot of wit and color in his preaching style with great messages from the Word of God.



A very special word of thanks goes to our good friends and God's faithful servants, Kenneth and Leah Garcia of Davao City. Ken and Leah own Midori Inn of Davao and provided complementary rooms for our guest speakers. Their help was a tremendous contribution to the conference. If you're ever in Davao and need a place to stay, we recommend the Midori Inn—a Christian establishment that honors God. Thanks again, Ken & Leah!



Our son, Matt Knight of Hughes Springs MBC, Hughes Springs, Texas did a splendid job of leading worship throughout the week. It was good to have him "home."

Pastor Bryan Sellers serves our association of churches world-wide as the Secretary-Treasurer of Missions. It was our special honor to have him as one of the guest speakers. Thank you Brother Bryan for your challenging messages and gentle spirit among us!



Words cannot adequately express the joy we have experienced during the month of February. Of course, the conference would be of little consequence without all the men and women who attended. We are humbled that so many of our Filipino brethren responded to the invitation to attend and hope they will return next year for the 18th annual meeting, the last week of February 2014.



Former RIM missionary Pastor Mike Maxwell of Hillcrest Baptist Church, Acworth, Georgia. Thanks for coming back, Mike!

"The success of any endeavor is not something that can be measured altogether by tangible things for often, things intangible—comfort, encouragement and hope linger long and prove the greatest of all benefits. Success thus determined is success in its truest form." —G. Knight, "Reflections Upon a Voyage"

Beyond the conference...



We were not able to bring the missionary ship, MSV/RIM Nativa II to the Port of Davao for commissioning as we had planned. Too many construction delays and promises made by the shipyard that weren't kept, forced us to delay that plan. Instead, we took as many of our guests as could go on the four-hour trip to the shipyard in General Santos City so they could at least see the ship. They found it as I had described...big and strong but unfinished. The photo at the left was on the forecastle.

Pastor Jim Crain of Calvary Baptist Church, Minden, LA and Pastor Bryan Sellers, Secretary-Treasurer of Missions for the ABA pose for a photograph at the back of a loaded truck with Sunday School and Vacation Bible School materials bound for a distant church across Mindanao. One of the highlights each year during our conference is when we distribute the literature, Bibles and hymnals that are shipped over for the churches. This year was great with an ample supply!



Pastor Wayne Stringer of New Boston, Texas who serves as Director of Philippine Mission Development took an opportunity to address the crowd on behalf of PMD and recognized churches that have been PMD projects in the past five years. This is a great and worthy effort!

“One of the highlights each year during our conference is when we distribute the literature, Bibles and hymnals that are shipped over for the churches.”



A special trip was made to the interior Mindanao province of Bukidnon, some five hours distant from Davao on Sunday, March 3 for the dedication of the new church building in Malaybalay. Pastor Jeff Luellen of Hyde Park Baptist Church preached the dedicatory message. Hyde Park BC is the sponsoring church of Hope Missionary Baptist Church of Malaybalay, Pastor Carlo Panes. Our Remote Island Ministries construction team fabricated and erected this building for Hyde Park Church.

On the day of their departure, (from left to right) Pastors Jim Crain, Bryan Sellers, Larry Clements and Jeff Luellen posed for a photograph with the seminary staff and students of PMBS-AIT. Pastor Crain is holding an artist's rendering to scale of the new missionary sailing ship RIM Nativa II. All our folks here at the seminary enjoyed the presence of these men and are hoping they will return in good time. Together we bid each, “Malipayong biyahe” and say a glad, “Mabuhay, ug balik balik na!”



The conference would not have been the great success it was without good food. Many thanks go to the kitchen staff of PMBS-AIT and all the helpers!

“Day after day the north wind blew bringing drenching squalls of rain from the China mainland rendering a strange grayness to our tropical sky and sea so much so that one wouldn't discern the difference between them when looking abroad. Each morning as we rose from fitful sleep the day seemed as the day before it until today, for today the south wind blows—the arrival of Trade Winds, long awaited.” —G. Knight, Memoirs

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Our host Pastor Emanuel Quiazon of Faith Baptist Church and his wife Pinky, together with the seminary staff and students once again served all the guests well!

...Reaching people on the edge!



"We don't fear the darkness...we carry the light!" So go the words of the song in our musical, "Into All the World." To emphasize the truth of that, the torches you see in this photo were used in a dramatic way. The seminary choir of the Philippine Missionary Baptist Seminary-Asia Institute of Theology did a tremendous job of singing the gospel of Christ. Glory to God!

A Final word...

Glen Knight

Each year's Strength for the Laborers Conference is such a great blessing to all our brethren here in the Philippines and certainly this conference was no exception. The work done by our guest speakers proved worthy in the presentation of encouraging and challenging messages from start to finish. I believe if you ask the men, they will tell you how exhausting the schedule is but at the same time what an advantage it is to have such a concentration of messages dealing with vital issues of evangelism.



Many thanks go to all our speakers and to those churches who helped them attend this meeting. In the photo above are (left to right) Pastors Jim Crain, Wayne Stringer, Jeff Luellen, Larry Clements and Bryan Sellers. Not shown are Pastors Robert Harris and Mike Maxwell, Worship Leader Matt Knight and the ladies' speakers, Sherri Harris and Geri Mauldin.

"How many people are required to do a job well? Now that, my friend depends on the job that is to be done. One can say it takes fewer or it takes more or that only one person can do the work of ten...we have heard such answers. But I have an idea that efficiency of labor depends not so much on how many workers there are but how well they are directed, for I have seen very little done by many men and at the same time, quite a lot done by the few. Typically then, jobs well done are jobs well directed. And a great aspect of good direction is found not just in commands and oversight but in a vision of accomplishment, which vision is often long and far-reaching." —G. Knight, Memoirs